# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

## OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)

VERIZON HAWAII INC.

DOCKET NO. 04-0052

For Approval to Include in its Rate)
Base Expenditures in Excess of )
\$500,000 for an E911 Server )
Replacement Project.

<u>ORDER NO. 21058</u>

DIV. OF CONSUMER ADVOCACE DEPT. OF COMMER ADVOCACE CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Filed June 14, 2004

At 1 o'clock P. .M.

Chief Clerk of the Commission

ATTEST: A True Copy KAREN HIGASHI Chief Clerk, Public

Chief Clerk, Public Utilities Commission, State of Hawaii.

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# **ORDER**

I.

# Background

VERIZON HAWAII ("Verizon INC. Hawaii") requests commission approval to include \$651,433 in its rate base to replace the existing servers which house the Scaleable Automatic Location with Selective Routing Addition application for Hawaii's enhanced 911 system ("Proposed Project"). Verizon Hawaii makes an application filed on March 17, 2004, request in Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 269, as amended; under Paragraph 2.3.d.2. of Public Utilities Commission General Order No. 8, Standards for Telephone Service in the State of Hawaii ("Paragraph 2.3.d.2"); and Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR") § 6-80-90.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>No persons moved to intervene in this docket.

Verizon Hawaii served the DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY

("Consumer Advocate") with copies of its application.<sup>2</sup>

The Consumer Advocate filed its preliminary statement of position ("SOP") on March 31, 2004, informing the commission that it: (1) has certain concerns with the proposed expenditure of funds and is currently unable to state its position on the merits of Verizon Hawaii's application; and (2) intends to issue information requests ("IRs") to aid in its review and investigation.

By Order No. 20889, filed on April 7, 2004, the commission required the Parties to meet informally to formulate and file for our review and approval a stipulated procedural order to govern the proceedings in this docket or, in the alternative, separate proposed procedural orders for our consideration and review within twenty (20) days of the date of the order. The Parties filed their proposed stipulated procedural order on April 20, 2004. Upon review, the commission

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Prior to the filing of the application, Verizon Hawaii and the Consumer Advocate (collectively, "Parties") filed a proposed stipulated order requesting a waiver of the HAR § 6-80-90(b) requirement that telecommunications carriers submit proposed expenditures in excess of \$500,000 for commission "review at least sixty [(60)] days before the commencement of construction or commitment for expenditures, whichever is earlier" on March 9, 2004 ("Stipulation"). The commission approved the Parties' Stipulation by issuing Stipulated Order No. 20851 on March 16, 2004, in this docket.

issued Stipulated Procedural Order No. 20931 on April 29, 2004 ("Procedural Order No. 20931").

The Consumer Advocate served Verizon Hawaii with IRs on April 21, 2004. Verizon Hawaii filed certain IR responses on May 10, 2004, in accordance with Procedural Order No. 20931, and filed the reminder of its IR responses on May 19 and 20, 2004.

The Consumer Advocate filed its SOP on the matters of this docket on June 2, 2004, informing us that it does not object to the approval of Verizon Hawaii's request to expend the funds as set forth in its application.

II.

#### Suspension

Under HAR § 6-80-90(b) and Paragraph 2.3.d.2., the commission is required to act on Verizon Hawaii's capital improvement application within ninety (90) days from the filing of the application. Non-action on this matter by the commission within the prescribed time allows Verizon Hawaii to include the expenditure of funds for the Proposed Project into its rate base without a determination from the commission. The deadline for the commission to act on the application in this docket is on or about June 14, 2004.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>On May 11, 2004, the Parties filed a proposed stipulated protective order for the commission's review and approval. The commission issued Protective Order No. 20991 on May 19, 2004.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Verizon Hawaii opted to not file its SOP. Under Procedural Order No. 20931, Verizon Hawaii's deadline to file its SOP expired on June 9, 2004.

Since the commission's deadline to act is approaching, we find good cause to suspend Verizon Hawaii's application in this docket. The additional time will provide the commission with the necessary time to thoroughly review all of the various matters of this docket and make its determinations.

III.

### Orders

THE COMMISSION ORDERS that Verizon Hawaii's application, filed on March 17, 2004, is suspended until further order of the commission.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii this 14th day of June, 2004.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Carlito P Caliboso Chairman

Wayne H Kimura Commissioner

Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Ji/Sook Kim

Commission Counsel

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#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Order No. 21058 upon the following parties, by causing a copy hereof to be mailed, postage prepaid, and properly addressed to each such party.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY P. O. Box 541 Honolulu, HI 96809

JOEL K. MATSUNAGA
VICE PRESIDENT-EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
VERIZON HAWAII INC.
P. O. Box 2200
Honolulu, HI 96841

DATED: June 14, 2004

Karen Higashi